



ERIC J. HOLCOMB, Governor
STATE OF INDIANA

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
302 West Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204

BOARD FOR FIREFIGHTING
PERSONNEL STANDARDS AND EDUCATION
MINUTES

February 27, 2017
Wayne Twp. FD
700 N High School Rd
Indpls IN 46214
6pm EST

A. Call to order at 6 pm

Present

Eric Gentry, Vice-Chairman

Greg Wyant

Burke Jones

John Smith

Genois Brabson

James Greeson

Jason Rogers

Absent

Eric Dreiman

Rob Lund

Chris Johnson

Brandon Wood

Tom Hanify

B. Consideration and approval of January 9 minutes.

Greg Wyant made a motion to approve. Burke Jones
seconded. Motion passed.

C. New Variance requests (staff recommends approval)

1. Amber Clouser, Fire Officer III

Burke Jones made a motion to approve. Greg Wyant seconded. Motion passed.

2. Jarrod Sights, Instructor I pending passing Reciprocity test.

Burke Jones made a motion to approve. Greg Wyant seconded. Motion passed.

3. Allison Reef, ADA form

Burke Jones made a motion to approve. Greg Wyant seconded. Motion passed.

4. Christopher Horner, Muncie Career Center, under 18 testing.

Dallas Anderson; Devon Coatie; Tyrin Davis; Michael Folkner; Gary Gray; Jamal Gross; Kobee Ice; Gracie Orebaugh; Cole Osgood; Kaleigha Vance; Bryce Winningham; Gregg Yuknavage.

Jason Rogers made a motion to approve. Greg Wyant seconded. Motion passed.

5. Arthur Winch, HMA, HMO from PA

Greg Wyant made a motion to approve. James Greeson seconded. Motion passed.

6. Jacob Luker, Chandler VFD, under 18 testing, Alia Kerr

James Greeson made a motion to approve. Greg Wyant seconded. Motion passed.

7. Mike Dzuba, Ingalls FD, under 18 testing, Melina Myers, Faith Diener, and Logan Scrogham.

Burke Jones made a motion to approve. John Smith seconded. Motion passed.

D. New Variance requests (staff recommends denial)

1. David Jeglum, Fire Officer II; Safety Officer, requested more information

Greg Wyant made a motion to deny. Genoio Brabson seconded. Motion passed

2. Zachary Fisher, HMT, Instructor I, Driver Operator, Inspector; no skills submitted, on line courses, course completion certifications.

Burke Jones made a motion to deny. Jason Rogers seconded. Motion passed.

3. Arthur Winch, Firefighter I/II, PA, 16 hour class

James Greeson made a motion to approve. Genoio Brabson seconded. Motion passed.

E. New Variance requests (staff has no recommendation)

1. Heather Henry, Instructor I,

James Greeson made a motion to approve the request pending her passing the reciprocity test. Genoio Brabson seconded. Motion passed.

2. Wayne Smith, Fire Officer II no application submitted at this time,
Greg Wyant made a motion to deny. Genoio Brabson seconded. Motion passed. He can resubmit with the documentation.

F. State Fire Marshal Report – James Greeson

On Feb 18th we held a Leadership seminar in Warsaw. It was well attended. March 11th we are holding one in Huntingburg. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. We did have to reschedule the New Castle seminar to March 25th. We do provide lunch at these meetings and we hope you can attend.

Already in 2017 we have had 3 fire fatalities. At this rate we will tie the number from 2016. We have smoke alarms for those that need them. We have grants, Red Cross assistance and if you need more information about these please contact my office.

The IDHS foundation grant is now open. It opened Feb 15 and will close April 7th. This is a grant up to \$4000 for life safety –operational needs and administrative needs. You can apply at www.grants@dhs.in.gov

G. Director of Training/Preparedness – Brandon Wood

Director Wood was absent

H. Section Chief of Fire Training – John Buckman III

1. IFSAC report

Firefighter I, Firefighter II, Hazmat Awareness and Hazmat Operations have the ok from IFSAC. This still has to be approved by their Board in April, but we have been told that we are good to go on these.

Fire Officer I and II, and Instructor I have been sent, we should get word back on those by Monday. Fire Officer 3 and 4 will be submitted at a later date. We had to wait on new test banks for those. We will not be applying to renew the Safety Officer. There are too many complications with the book for us to submit at this time.

2. Firefighter Modules A and B.

IFSAC stated that we had to separate testing. So the change in Module A will be that we are moving the mandatory parts from module B to module A. Module B will have 3 separate tests for Hazmat Awareness, Operations and Technical Rescue Awareness. You may request all the testing for Module B at the same time, and test on the same day. You **MUST** pass awareness before you can take operations and you **MUST** pass awareness before you can take Technical Rescue Awareness.

Module C will still be Firefighter I only and Module D will be Firefighter II only.

Greg Wyant made a motion to accept the changes. John Smith seconded. Motion passed.

3. Instructor updates- we will be having webinars for instructor updates. They will be held Feb 28th, March 1, March 2, and March 3rd via webinar.

4. OHSA recommendations – these are part of a “suggested” fire dept. training plan. See attachments. I am going to send this to OSHA and see if they want to add or subtract anything. These are suggested training only. NOT MANDATED.
5. Combined testing – Effective immediately, we will no longer issue combined testing. If you are already in process of a course and are testing prior to June, then you can proceed. Anyone else will be getting a phone call from staff explaining that you will be getting 2 separate tests.
Genois Brabson made a motion to approve this process. John Smith seconded. Motion passed.
Donna Saine explained a little about the process of separating the testing and adjusting the modules to accommodate these changes.
6. Final practical skill testing. In the past, we have listed the years’ schedule of skills on our web page. Per IFSAC, we can no longer do this. 16-14 days from your skills testing, you must call the office and they will give you the scenario that you will be testing on. Every phone call will get a different scenario.
John Smith made a motion to approve this process. Jason Rogers seconded. Motion passed.
7. Recommendation for firefighters transferring from one dept. to another.
Again, this a recommendation only. Many have asked for guidance when a transfer happens and we no longer

had anything available. This form gives guidance on what you can do. See attachment.

I. Administrative Proceedings/ Non-Final Orders

1. DHS-1608-BFPSE-003, withdrawal of Administrative Law Judge

Burke Jones made a motion to affirm the request. Genois Brabson seconded. Motion passed.

2. Chris See, One year probation defined

No action taken at this time.

J. Request for Administrative Appeals – Chairman

No report at this time. Jonathan Whitham introduced the new legal addition, Michelle Allen, from the Public Defender's Office has joined IDHS.

K. Old Business

1. Status of Technical Rescue update

In 2016 the committee revalidated the test banks to a single book per discipline. In 2017, the committee will be rewriting the skills for to the new standard. They are looking at having this completed by the 2nd quarter of 2017.

L. New Business

1. John Buckman - Disciplinary action

We had a complaint come in about a proctor that was reading the test to 2 students, had a copy of a test from previous testing, used that as study material, and had that

on the table during the test they had open discussions about the answers. Staff went to the Fire Dept. and talked with the proctor, and both students. The Proctor, Keith Ross, admitted that he did give them answers to the questions. This was the third attempt at passing this exam for the 2 students. Our recommendation options are: Suspend for two (2) years and then take the course for Instructor I and start over.

Once he has met the requirements for Instructor II/III, he could then take the course and all testing. Then he would be on probation for one (1) year. He would be required to notify the staff thirty (30) days prior to him acting as staff for any course. We did give them the option of appearing tonight for the Board to ask questions. They did not appear.

Discussion:

- Temporary suspension for 180 days without the ability to recertify (certification expires 5/17) and add conditions
- Revoke the Instructor certifications
- Take no action at this time, and decide at the next meeting and get clarification on the legal issues.
- Let it expire and then he would be suspended for 2 years.
- Put instructor certifications on hold until decision is made and prohibit recertification while on hold.
- Does his certification determine his job status?

- If suspended he could still teach as a subject matter specialist.

Jason Rogers made a motion to permanently revoke the Instructor I, II/III certifications. John Smith seconded. Motion passed.

Greg Wyant voted no, Eric Gentry abstained from voting.

Levi Marshall, one of the students from the above issue, during the interviews admitted that during the test, they talked about the questions and answers with the proctor. He also stated that he had a copy of the test beforehand. We are asking to revoke the Rope Operation/Technician certification that was issued at that time.

One of the options listed is to censure the student
Invalidate the testing and make them take it over
Disqualify this test and have them retest.

James Greeson made a motion to invalidate the test for Rope Ops/Tech. He has to retake the course and take the test. Burke Jones seconded. Motion passed.

Jacob Willis, same situation as above.

Talked about the test during testing, Rope Ops/Tech.

James Greeson made a motion to invalidate the test for Rope Ops/Tech. He has to retake the course and take the test. Burke Jones seconded. Motion passed.

During our investigation of the above, it was stated that Bryan Fleck, had taken the Rope Operations, did not

complete the skills but received the certification in 2014. He asked the lead evaluator about the skills, was told, don't worry about it, I will take care of you and 2 weeks later he received the certification in the mail. He was also invited to attend this meeting. James Greeson made a motion suspend indefinitely pending his retaking the course and all testing. Rope Ops. Certification. He has to retake the course and take the test. Greg Wyant seconded. Motion passed.

M. Open discussion, comments, questions?

The Board gave Barb Goble a card, and thank you for the years of service. March 24th is her last day. She has been with the Board for 14 years and with the State for 21.

Mike Dzuba, Larry Morphy, Larry Southard, Larry Curl, presented Barb Goble with a certificate from the IVFA thanking her for her years of service.

Meeting adjourned 7:45 pm

N. Next meeting:

April 17, 2017 6pm
Winchester FD
191 Middle School Rd
Winchester IN
Indpls IN 46214

